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## *California State Senate*

COMMITTEE  
ON  
BUDGET AND FISCAL REVIEW

ROOM 5019, STATE CAPITOL  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

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**June 5, 2008**  
**OUTCOMES**

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### *CORRECTIONS AND OTHER OPEN ISSUES*

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## **California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation**

**Action.** The Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee rejected the Governor's early release and summary parole proposals and approved the actions outlined in Attachment A.

**Vote. 8-4 (Dutton, Harman, Wyland, and Margett – Voting No) (Cogdill Absent)**

## Attachment A - Corrections Reform Package

		Savings/(Expenditures)
		In Millions
<b>(a) Parole Reform</b>		
(1) Approve trailer bill language to authorize direct discharge for offenders convicted of non-serious, non-violent offenses and that have no priors that are serious or violent. This action would exclude all sex offenders. Direct discharge is functionally the same as summary parole in that there is no direct supervision of the offender. Local law enforcement would still have access to information about criminal history through databases. In addition, summary parole would not be allowed under the Safe Neighborhood Act Initiative that, if passed, would eliminate all savings related to summary parole.		\$191.0
(2) Approve trailer bill language to authorize earned discharge from parole for offenders. This policy would exclude sex offenders and inmates sentenced to an indeterminate sentence of life in prison. Offenders would be eligible for an earned discharge under the following conditions:		
- Non-serious, non-violent with violent or serious priors would be discharged after 5 months of clean time.		\$27.7
- Serious, violent offenders would be discharged after 16 months clean time, which is roughly half the current parole period.		\$7.0
(3) Increase funding to reduce parole ratios for all parolees currently on 70:1 caseload to a 50:1 caseload. This action is recommended as a companion to direct discharge, because if direct discharge is implemented there will be a change in the mix of offenders that will remain on parole. This policy should enhance supervision and the provision of supportive services for the remaining parolees.		(\$55.0)
(4) Contract Jail Bed Savings. Similar to the Governor's summary parole policy, the alternative parole reforms listed above would result in a reduced need for contract jail beds in the budget year resulting in state savings.		\$38.3

## Attachment A - Corrections Reform Package

	(5) Board of Parole Hearings/Case Records/Parole Academy Savings. Similar to the Governor's summary parole policy, the alternative parole reforms listed above would result in various other reduced expenditures at CDCR.	\$19.7
	(6) Approve trailer bill language to establish a pilot program in 10 trial courts that will divert certain parolees that would otherwise be revoked and sent back to state prison to alternative community sanctions using a drug court model. This program would build on the Parole Violation Intermediate Sanctions Program established in Chapter 645, Statutes of 2007. This would require CDCR to enter an agreement with the trial courts to monitor the participants in this program. Funding for this program would be provided from institution savings at CDCR. <i>This pilot would also build on mental health courts and rely on alternative sanctions that used an integrated services model.</i>	\$20.0
	Subtotal Parole Reform	\$248.7
<b>(b) Discharge of Infirm Inmates</b>		
	(1) Direct CDCR to implement current law and authorize early release of infirmed offenders consistent with existing law. These inmates can cost the state upwards of \$1 million annually. Furthermore, some of these offenders may be eligible for Medi-Cal, but because they are incarcerated cannot benefit from this program. Early discharge would not preclude these offenders from being placed on parole or being monitored by GPS. This would exclude sex offenders <i>and be limited to non-violent, non-serious offenders</i> .	\$15.0

## Attachment A - Corrections Reform Package

<b>(c) Credit Reform</b>		
	(1) Approve trailer bill language to implement comprehensive credit reform that will (a) establish consistent day-for-day credit earning status for offenders currently eligible for earning day-for-day credit; (b) authorize the department to reward enhanced credits (up to 4 months total) to offenders that complete rehabilitation, <i>education, and vocation</i> programs in prison; and (c) authorize the department to provide one month credit for every four months discipline free to encourage good behavior in state prison. These policies would reduce the time spent in prison for some inmates, provide inmates incentives to participate in programming that will reduce recidivism, and provide inmates with additional incentives to follow prison rules, thereby improving the safety of the prison environment.	\$150.0
<b>(d) Updates to Property Crimes</b>		
	(1) Approve trailer bill language to adjust the value thresholds for property crimes by inflation. Most of these thresholds have not been adjusted since 1982. For example, the property value threshold for grand theft would be increased from \$400 to \$750 to reflect inflation since 1982. <i>The inflation number reflected in the agenda was incorrect and the Grand Theft threshold would be approximately \$925 in today's dollars.</i>	\$100.0
	- Grand Theft	
	- Forgery/Fraud	
	- Receiving Stolen Property	
	- Other Property	
<b>Total Corrections Reform Package</b>		<b>\$513.7</b>